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ENPOIFT326028 24 ZVCKZR064-68(AVC, KUSZAVIA-A, OPER-HD. ((ALL TIMES ZULU)) DRV SAM ASSOCIATED COMMUNICATIONS REFLECT TWO SHHOTDOWNS AND TWO U.S. PILOT CAPTURES.

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ZEM

DRV SAM ASSOCIATED COMMUNICATIONS ON 26 FEBRUARY HAVE REFLECTED A PROPAGANDA MESSAGE REVEALING A CLAIM OF TWO SHOOTDOWNS AND THE CAPTURE OF TWO U.S. PILOTS. BETWEEN 8251 AND 8318, AN UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER, PROBABLY A REGIMENTAL CONTROLLER, READ A PROPAGANDA MESSAGE TO AN UNKNOWN RECIPIENT DURING WHICH TWO SHOOT- DOWNS AND TWO PILOT CAPTURES WERE REPORTED. AT \$251, THE SPEAKER STATED? "ON THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 23, 1968, OUR AIR FORCE SHOT DOWN IN PLACE ONE F4 (AND) CAPTURED THE PIRATE PILOT, (AND ON THE) NIGHT OF FEBRUARY 24, 1968, A MISSILE SHOT DOWN ON THE SPOT ONE A6 (AND) CAPTURED ALIVE THE PIRATE PILOT". CONTINUING, THE SPEAKER POINTED OUT THAT THEIR FORCES WERE IMPROVING IN SKILL AND URGED ALL UNITS TO PRACTICE AND STRIVE TO IMPROVE THEIR COMBAT TECHNIQUES. FURTHER COMMUNICATIONS REVEALED ONLY A REITERATION OF THE MESSAGE URGING ALL TO "SHOOTDOWN THE ENEMY ON THE SPOT AND CAPTURE ALIVE MANY (OF THE) PIRATE PILOTS". COMMUNICATIONS DID NOT REEAL THE LOCATION/OR/CONDITION OF EITHER OF THE TWO PILOTS AND NO FURTHER COMMUNICATIONS WERE NOTED. COMMENTS: THE SHOOTDOWN OF THE F4 ON FEBRUARY 23 AS REVEALED IN THE MESSAGE IS IN PROBABLE REFERENCE TO THE SHOOTDOWN OF A U.S. F-4 STRIKE AIRCRAFT BY A MIG21 PILOT DURING THE A.M. STRIKES ON 23 FEBRUARY EGRAM 2 VCAYR103-68 DIG: 232130Z REFERS). THE REFERENCE TO THE SAM SHOOTDOWN ON FEBRUARY 24 PROBABLY RELATES TO A DRV SAX ASSOCIATED REPORTED SHOOTDOWN OF A U.S. A-6 AIRCRAFT IN THE HANDI EAST REGIMENT AREA DURING THE 1288 HOUR ON THIS DATE (DETAILS OF WHICH WILL BE FORHTCOMING IN AN EGRAM, 2 7/2000/20065-68, FROM THIS CENTER). XXHH 437 NNNN

Approved for release by NSA on 06-05-2014